

REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT STATIST UPON THE LIVESTOCK STATISTICS OF SOUTH
AUSTRALIA FOR THE YEAR 1927.

I. SHEEP AND WOOL.

a. Number. The sheep flocks on December 31st, 1927 numbered 7,542,345 (7,283,945), increase 258,400. These were classified as follows - Ewes 6,698,579 (3,605,455), increase 93,124; Wethers 2,124,044 (2,018,941) increase 105,103; Rams, 101,335 (93,205), increase 8,130; Under 1 year old 618,387 (1,566,344), increase 52,043.

b. Breeds of Sheep. 6,823,293 (6,604,971) Sheep or 90.5 (90.7) per cent of the flocks were returned as pure bred Merino and 459,770 (404,476) or 6.1 (5.6) per cent as Merino Comebacks; 25,888 (24,739) or 0.3 (0.4) per cent as other pure breeds (Corriedale, Shropshire, Dorset Horn, Lincoln, Romney Marsh, Southdown, Suffolk, &c), and the balance of 233,394 (249,759) or 3.1 (3.4) per cent were returned as Crossbreds.

c. Lambing 1927. During the year 1927, 2,967,907 (2,799,199) Ewes were mated and 1,734,958 (1,679,336) Lambs marked equal to a percentage of 58.46 compared with 59.99 for the previous year.

d. Winter Lambing 1928. 2,928,000 Ewes were reported as either mated or intended to be mated for the Winter Lambing of 1928. The percentage results will be available in about a month. In addition 147,000 Ewes were expected to be reserved for Spring Lambing.

e. Wool-Clip. 7,800,922 (7,271,698) Sheep and Lambs were shorn the total clip including locks, bellies, pieces, etc. being 67,570,937 (63,078,242) lbs. exceeding the record of the previous year by 4,492,695 lbs. The average weight of fleece for sheep and lambs combined was 8.66 (8.67) lbs. and for sheep only 10.31 (10.23) lbs.

f. Total Wool Production. Subject to slight revision of fellmongered wool, it is estimated that the grand total wool production, including the clip and wool fellmongered and wool on local skins exported was 77,711,921 (72,365,200) lbs., increase 5,346,721 lbs., Value 25,630,876 (24,468,551) increase £1,162,325; the average value per lb greasy being 17.39d. (14.82d.)

II. CATTLE. All kinds 316,314 (340,007), decrease 23,693. Dairying cattle 117,580 (127,292), decrease 9,712, classified as follows:- In milk 1,944 (86,172), Dry 28,513 (32,289), and Heifers springing 7,123 (8,831). In addition there were 11,513 (12,719) other Heifers 1 year and over which are not included in the Dairying Total but which are possible additions to the Dairying Herds.

III. HORSES. 224,027 (234,352), decrease 10,325.

IV. PIGS. 69,733 (79,108), decrease 9,365. Ages 54,158 (60,765) under 1 year, and 15,575 (18,343) 1 year and over.

V. ALL OTHER STOCK. Goats - Angora 1,594, other 2,443, total 4,037 (4,037) mels, 4,306. Mules 754. Donkeys 3,499. Ostriches 240.

VI. INTERSTATE MOVEMENT BY LAND OF STOCK The State gained 4,234 Sheep and 34,041 head of Cattle and lost 889 Horses by transit of stock by land from and to the other States. 406 Horses were also shipped to other States by sea and 595 to overseas Countries.

VII. SLAUGHTERING Sheep and Lambs 1,209,608 (1,089,615) increase 119,993, for export 10,647 (6,974), Cattle 142,557 (143,951) increase 1,394, Pigs 116,623 (121,939), decrease 5,316.

VIII. TOP-DRESSED PASTURE LANDS. There was an increase during the year 47,667 acres in the area top-dressed and of 2,283 tons in the manure used. The respective totals were 209,922 acres, Manures used 11,393 (9,110) tons. (162,355)

Statistical Office,
ADELAIDE,
1st August, 1928.

W.L. JOHNSTON,

GOVERNMENT STATIST.

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

I. LIVESTOCK AS AT DECEMBER 31ST, 1927 IN COMPARISON WITH DECEMBER 31ST, 1926.

Division	S H E E P			P I G S		
	1926	1927	Increase†	1926	1927	Increase†
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Central	1,342,124	1,414,406	72,282	38,971	36,788	-2,183
Lower North	1,182,182	1,134,069	-48,113	12,176	10,408	-1,768
Upper North	1,050,408	1,045,586	- 4,822	4,940	4,358	- 582
South Eastern	1,210,889	1,258,318	47,429	8,027	7,233	- 794
Western	861,470	964,145	102,675	5,143	4,085	-1,058
Murray Mallee	480,730	462,332	-18,398	9,591	6,686	-2,905
Total Counties	6,127,803	6,278,856	151,053	78,848	69,558	-9,290
Outside Counties	1,156,142	1,263,489	107,347	260	175	- 85
Total State	7,283,945	7,542,345	258,400	79,108	69,733	-9,375

Division	C A T T L E			H O R S E S		
	1926	1927	Increase†	1926	1927	Increase†
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Central	87,297	82,274	-5,023	70,888	67,489	- 3,399
Lower North	33,315	28,544	-4,771	51,855	48,289	- 3,566
Upper North	26,017	20,192	-5,825	19,656	17,860	- 1,796
South Eastern	35,655	33,286	-2,369	14,646	14,582	- 64
Western	11,267	10,207	-1,060	26,733	26,319	- 414
Murray Mallee	24,799	21,049	-3,750	33,022	32,464	- 558
Total Counties	218,350	195,552	-22,798	216,800	207,003	-9,797
Outside Counties	121,657	120,762	- 895	17,552	17,024	- 528
Total State	340,007	316,314	-23,693	234,352	224,027	-10,325

Division	W O O L - C L I P			AVERAGE WEIGHT FIBRE		
	1926-27	1927-28	†Increase	1926-7	1927-8	Increase†
	lbs	lbs	lbs	lbs	lbs	lbs
Central	11,368,309	11,890,499	522,190	8.45	8.57	.12
Lower North	10,696,895	10,731,983	35,088	8.97	9.09	.12
Upper North	9,760,029	11,400,905	1,640,876	9.39	9.16	-.23
South Eastern	9,109,891	9,665,578	555,687	7.59	7.78	.19
Western	6,861,810	7,575,930	714,120	7.94	7.81	-.13
Murray Mallee	4,263,897	4,203,296	- 60,601	9.04	8.83	-.21
Total Counties	52,060,831	55,468,191	3,407,360	8.52	8.53	.01
Outside Counties	11,017,411	12,102,746	1,085,335	9.51	9.31	-.20
Total State	63,078,242	67,570,937	4,492,695	8.67	8.66	-.01

Grand Total Wool Production (Clip, Fellmongered and on skins imported) subject to slight revision, 1926-27 72,365,200 lbs, 1927-28 77,711,921 lbs. Increase 5,346,721 lbs.

† Minus sign (-) denotes decrease.

Statistical Office,
ADELAIDE,
31st July, 1928.

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